

Quality education is a team effort

Kentucky's constitution requires that “**the General Assembly shall, by appropriate legislation, provide for an efficient system of common schools throughout the State.**” Under that authority, the legislature created a state board of education, local school boards and school councils. Each have unique roles in the governance and operations of public schools. All work closely with their communities to serve the educational needs of students.

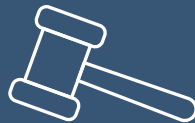
State
Legislature



State Board
& Department
of Education



Local
School Board



School
Council



Families &
Community



Success of
students,
educators
& schools



The **state legislature** is tasked with providing for an “efficient system of common schools;” providing funding and enacting laws.

The **state board of education** sets rules for schools and the **department of education** provides assistance to districts.

Locally elected **school boards** are charged, in part, with approving district policies, approving the budget and hiring the superintendent.

School councils, comprised of elected parents and educators, set school policy and make decisions that enhance student achievement.

Local **communities** support schools through local tax dollars and public input. **Families** and caregivers directly support students' education.

This is summary information and is not meant to reflect all situations boards and councils may encounter. For more detailed information, please see KSBA's School Board Leadership Guide at ksba.org. Relevant state laws include KRS 158, KRS 160 and KRS 160.345, accessible at legislature.ky.gov. More information on school board service can be found at ksba.org.

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KSBA
KENTUCKY SCHOOL BOARDS
ASSOCIATION

Understanding the roles of boards and councils

Academics

School Board

- Adopt annual calendar, including professional development and holidays
- Monitor district performance
- Develop district improvement plan

School Council

- Consult with superintendent on his/her final selection of curriculum, instructional materials and practices
- Develop school improvement plan

Students

School Board

- Set graduation requirements
- Adopt discipline code for the district
- Adopt nonresident enrollment policies
- Set attendance boundaries for schools

School Council

- Set and implement discipline practices for the school
- Determine student classroom assignments
- Determine schedule of school day

Staff

School Board

- Hire and evaluate the superintendent
- Hire/contract with board attorney
- Establish job descriptions for all staff
- Adopt leave policies for staff

School Council

- Consult with superintendent on his/her hiring of the school principal
- Decide number of people in each position in the school
- Assign staff time

Funding

School Board

- Adopt local tax rates
- Set district budget
- Set salary schedule for all district staff
- Allocate resources to each school

School Council

- Set the school budget
- Consult with superintendent on use of funding from school board to purchase materials and other student support needs

Activities

School Board

- Approve field trips and fundraisers
- Approve new extracurricular activities

School Council

- Select extracurricular activities offered at school
- Set participation requirements for extracurricular activities

Facilities

School Board

- Maintain and insure district property
- Approve construction projects
- Decide how school buildings are used after hours by community groups

School Council

- Adopt policies for use of the school building during the school day